

REMARKS

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-19 under 35 USC 103 as being obvious over Sakurai.

Applicant has carefully reviewed Sakurai and respectfully submits that Sakurai only teaches that the resonance vibration to drive the ultrasonic wave transducer is detected by the main body from the handpiece provided therein and the power corresponding to its appropriate frequency is transmitted to the handpiece.

Still further and according to Sakurai, the frequency signal is generated in the oscillation circuit provided in the handpiece and the driving signal amplified by a power amplification means is applied to the handpiece while receiving the frequency signal in the main body. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that Sakurai only achieves the function of the member cooperating with the power amplification means in the main body when the handpiece is driven.

In contrast thereto, Applicant's invention is not limited to the information for driving such as frequency and therefore can transmit several identification signals other than an ID code identifying each instrument assembly to the main body for various medical treatments including dental treatment.

In addition, in Applicant's invention, the identification signal output means isn't only a member for driving but an independent information source of the identification signal in relation to the inherent function of the instrument, namely the output means transmits several identification signals actively and positively only by connecting the instrument to the main body without being directly related to driving of the handpiece.

While a frequency may be used as an identification signal, however, in Applicant's invention, frequency is not used for driving and the value itself of the frequency is transmitted as an identification signal by way of frequency modulation. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the function of the identification signal in Applicant's invention is different from the frequency signal used in Sakurai.

Still further, Applicant's review of Sakurai indicates that in the Sakurai method, the frequency signal generated from the oscillation circuit of the handpiece is amplified by a power amplification means and the identification signal decoding means is not provided in the main body and the oscillator in the handpiece is driven by such frequency of the power to be supplied from the main body.

In contrast thereto, in Applicant's invention, an individual identification signal is required to be prepared in advance and a decoding means must be also provided in the main body.

Also, in Sakurai, although in the receiver side, i.e. in the main body, an ultrasonic wave transducer drive circuit has to be provided; in contrast thereto, in Applicant's invention, various drive circuits are provided corresponding to the instrument assembly to be connected thereto and such circuits are automatically and selectively connected to instruments for driving which has been identified by the main body. In particular, identification signals are such information as to identify the types of the handpiece, namely motor handpiece, air turbine handpiece, scaler, photo polymerization means and the like, selective operation of a driving circuit or a control circuit provided in the main body is enable according to the kind of the instrument by sending such identification signal to the main body.

In Sakurai, the difference of the frequency can be distinguished, however, it is not used to distinguish which one of plural handpieces having the same frequency is attached, and Applicant respectfully submits that the object of Sakurai invention is not to distinguish which one.

In contrast thereto, in Applicant's invention, an individual identification number can be allotted for individual instruments so that even the handpieces with the same function can be distinguished and as the result, the present apparatus incorporating the present instrument has such function as recited in now amended claim 16.

It is respectfully requested that as part of this RCE the Examiner consider the above arguments by Applicant.

In view of the above, therefore, it is respectfully requested that this Supplemental Amendment be entered, favorably considered and the case passed to issue.

Please charge any additional costs incurred by or in order to implement this Amendment or required by any requests for extensions of time to KODA & ANDROLIA DEPOSIT ACCOUNT NO. 11-1445.

Respectfully submitted,

KODA & ANDROLIA

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